

Remarks

The various parts of the Office Action (and other matters, if any) are discussed below under appropriate headings.

The previously submitted claims were rejected as being anticipated by Perrin '039 or alternatively as being obvious over Perrin '039 or Grosheim et al. '474. These rejections are now moot in that the claims have been amended to recite a feature clearly not disclosed or suggested by Perrin '039, this being a décor paper comprising conductive carbon with an average particle size of less than 1000 nm, having a paper weight between 10 g/m² and 50 g/m² and being impregnated with a resin/acrylate mixture.

Perrin '039 discloses sheets of paper having antistatic properties which sheets comprise conductive pigments, have a basic laminate-type structure and are provided with an electrically conductive layer of doped metal oxides. The conductive pigments are chosen from the group consisting of micas, talcum, kaolin, bentonite, montmorillonites and glass particles. Perrin '039 does not disclose conductive carbon particles with an average size of less than 1000nm, nor to use a décor paper with a paperweight between 10 g/m² and 50 g/m², which is impregnated with a resin/acrylate mixture.

Grosheim et al. '474 relates to an electrically conductive laminate, which contains in, for example, a décor layer thereof an electrically conductive, water-soluble alkali-metal salt. It further relates to one or more Kraft-paper core sheets being replaced by an electrically conductive web. The conductive web may comprise conductive materials such as carbon, carbon black, silver, aluminum, and similar. This conductive web is separate from the décor sheet as it is clearly stated in column 4, lines 2-5. Thus, Grosheim et al. '474 does not disclose a décor paper comprising conductive carbon. Further, Grosheim et al. '474 does not disclose the use of a décor paper with a paper weight of less than 50 g/m², which is impregnated with a resin/acrylate mixture to give the paper the necessary mechanical strength.

As mentioned above, neither Perrin '039 nor Grosheim et al. '474 teaches the use of a décor paper comprising conductive carbon with a particle size of less than 1000 nm. Further, Grosheim et al. '474 mentions that decorative sheets used in manufacturing laminates generally comprise a sheet having a basis weight of about 80-

200 g/m² (column 4, line 34-37), and Perrin '039 makes no mention that the décor papers could have a paperweight less than the general basis weight of about 80-200 g/m². Consequently, none of these documents disclose the use of a resin/acrylate mixture to impregnate the thin décor paper to give it the required physical strength. Therefore, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that conductive carbon with an average particle size of less than 1000 nm, having a paper weight between 10 g/m² and 50 g/m² and being impregnated with a resin/acrylate mixture could be successfully used in a décor paper.

In view of the foregoing, request is made for timely issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

/Don W. Bulson/

By

Don W. Bulson, Reg. No. 28,192

1621 Euclid Avenue
Nineteenth Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
(216) 621-1113

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